

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image data storing device, comprising:

at least two storing means different in storing format from each other, each for storing image data input via inputting means, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive;

transfer control means for controlling transfer of the image data between said plurality of storing means; and

checking means included in said transfer control means for determining whether or not storing means included in a destination, to which the image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data, wherein

said image storing device is configured to operate within an image forming apparatus.

Claim 2 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of transfer, said checking means compare a residual memory capacity of the storing means of the destination and a total amount of image data-existing in, among designated image files or pages, image files or pages not transferred and determines whether or not a transfer is allowable.

Claim 3 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein when the transfer between said plurality of storing means is writing the image data. in storing means that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses, said checking means determines only before a start of the transfer whether or not the transfer is allowable.

Claim 4 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said storing means that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses uses a write limiting type of storing medium.

Claim 5 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 2, further comprising display means for displaying, when said checking means does not allow the transfer because the total amount of the image data exceeds the residual capacity of the destination, a short memory capacity or the total amount of the image data of the image files or the pages designated and the residual capacity of the destination.

Claim 6 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, said checking means determines whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced.

Claim 7 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, said checking means determines whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced, while determining the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled.

Claim 8 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said checking means determines the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled such that a minimum number of image files or pages is canceled.

Claim 9 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, said checking means determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum.

Claim 10 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, said checking means determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that, among the image files or the pages that said transfer control means stores and manages as the objects of transfer, the number of files having low numbers in order of designation is maximum.

Claim 11 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said checking means determines the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum after the transfer.

Claim 12 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 11, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages that minimize the residual capacity of the destination after the transfer exist, said checking means determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that a number of files or pages to be transferred becomes maximum.

Claim 13 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:  
display means for displaying the image files or the pages to be canceled.

Claim 14 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said display means displays the files or the pages to be canceled together with the files or the pages to be transferred while distinguishing said files or the pages from each other.

Claim 15 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 7, further comprising display means for displaying, after the transfer of the files or the pages designated, the files or the pages whose designation has been canceled.

Claim 16 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of, transfer, said checking means compares a number of residual files or residual pages available at the destination and a number of the files or pages designated as objects of transfer, but not transferred, and determines whether or not the transfer is allowable on the basis of a relation between said numbers.

Claim 17 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said checking means determines whether or not the transfer is allowable by determining whether or not the residual capacity of the destination is zero.

Claim 18 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 17, wherein when the destination comprises storing means that allows a plurality of simultaneous accesses, said checking means determines, after a start of the transfer, whether or not a transfer is allowable by determining whether or not the residual capacity of said destination is zero.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An image processing apparatus, comprising:

inputting means comprising an image data storing device, which includes an interface, for receiving image data output from at least one of image reading means or an outside of said image processing apparatus; and

image forming means for forming an image in accordance with the image data output from said image data storing device;

said image data storing device comprising:

at least two storing means different in storing format from each other, each for storing image data input via said inputting means, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive;

transfer control means for controlling transfer of the image data between said plurality of storing means; and

checking means included in said transfer control means for determining whether or not storing means included in a destination, to which the image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data, wherein

said image processing apparatus is configured to operate within an image forming apparatus.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): In a method of controlling a transfer of image data input via inputting means between at least two storing means different in storing format from each other, configured to operate within an image forming apparatus, whether or not storing means included in a destination, to which said image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data is determined to thereby interrupt the transfer if the capacity of said storing means is short, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive.

Claim 21 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of transfer, a residual capacity of the storing means of the destination and a total amount of image data existing in, among designated image files or pages, image files or pages not transferred are compared to thereby determine whether or not a transfer is allowable.

Claim 22 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein when the transfer between said plurality of storing means is writing the image data in storing means that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses, whether or not the transfer is allowable is determined only before a start of the transfer.

Claim 23 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said storing means that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses uses a write limiting type of storing medium.

Claim 24 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein when the transfer is not allowed because the total amount of the image data exceeds the residual capacity of the destination, a short memory capacity or the total amount of the image data of the image files or the pages designated and the residual capacity of the destination are displayed.

Claim 25 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced is determined.

Claim 26 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced is determined with the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled being determined.

Claim 27 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled are determined such that a minimum number of image files or pages is canceled.

Claim 28 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, the image files or the pages to be canceled are determined such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum.

Claim 29 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, the image files or the pages to be canceled are determined such that, among the image files or the pages designated as the objects of transfer and managed as to an order of designation, the number of files having low numbers in the order of designation is maximum.

Claim 30 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled are determined such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum after the transfer.

Claim 31 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 30, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages that minimize the residual capacity of the destination after the transfer exist, the image files or the pages to be canceled are determined such that a number of files or pages to be transferred becomes maximum.

Claim 32 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the image files or the pages to be canceled are displayed.

Claim 33 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the files or the pages to be canceled are displayed together with the files or the pages to be transferred while being distinguished from each other.

Claim 34 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 26, after the transfer of the files or the pages designated, the files or the pages whose designation has been canceled are displayed.

Claim 35 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of transfer, a number of residual files or residual pages available at the destination and a number of the files or pages designated as objects of transfer, but not transferred, are compared to thereby determine whether or not the transfer is allowable on the basis of a relation between said numbers.

Claim 36 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein whether or not the transfer is allowable is determined by determining whether or not the residual capacity of the destination is zero.



Claim 37 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein when the destination comprises storing means that allows a plurality of simultaneous accesses, after a start of the transfer, whether or not a transfer is allowable is determined by determining whether or not the residual capacity of said destination is zero.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): In a recording medium capable of being read by a computer and storing a program that said computer executes for controlling a transfer of image data, which are input via inputting means, between at least two storing means different in storing format from each other, configured to operate within an image forming apparatus, said method determines whether or not storing means included in a destination, to which said image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data, and interrupts the transfer if said capacity is short, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): An image data storing device, comprising:  
at least two storing devices different in storing format from each other, each configured to store image data input via an inputting device, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive;

a transfer controller configured to control transfer of the image data between said plurality of storing devices; and

a checking device included in said transfer controller and configured to determine whether or not a storing device included in a destination, to which the image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data, wherein

said image data storing device is configured to operate within an image forming apparatus.

Claim 40 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 39, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of transfer, said checking device compare a residual memory capacity of the storing device of the destination and a total amount of image data existing in, among designated image files or pages, image files or pages not transferred and determines whether or not a transfer is allowable.

Claim 41 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 40, wherein when the transfer between said plurality of storing devices is writing the image data in a storing device that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses, said checking device determines only before a start of the transfer whether or not the transfer is allowable.

Claim 42 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 41, wherein said storing device that inhibits a plurality of simultaneous write accesses uses a write limiting type of storing medium.

Claim 43 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 40, further comprising a display configured to display, when said checking device does not allow the transfer because the total amount of the image data exceeds the residual capacity of the destination, a short memory capacity or the total amount of the image data of the image files or the pages designated and the residual capacity of the destination.

Claim 44 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 40, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, said checking device determines whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced.

Claim 45 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 40, wherein when the transfer of the image data of the image files or the pages initially designated is not allowed, said checking device determines whether or not said image data can be transferred if a number of the image files or a number of the pages is reduced, while determining the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled.

Claim 46 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 45, wherein said checking device determines the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled such that a minimum number of image files or pages is canceled.

Claim 47 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 46, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, said checking device determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum.

Claim 48 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 46, wherein when a plurality of combinations of image files or pages whose designation should be canceled exist, said checking device determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that, among the image files or the pages that said transfer controller stores and manages as the objects of transfer, the number of files having low numbers in order of designation is maximum.

Claim 49 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 45, wherein said checking device determines the image files or the pages whose designation should be canceled such that the residual capacity of the destination becomes minimum after the transfer.

Claim 50 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 49, wherein when as plurality of combinations of image files or pages that minimize the residual capacity of the destination after the transfer exist, said checking device determines the image files or the pages to be canceled such that a number of files or pages to be transferred becomes maximum.

Claim 51 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 45, further comprising:  
a display configured to display the image files or the pages to be canceled.

Claim 52 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 51, wherein said display displays the files or the pages to be canceled together with the files or the pages to be transferred while distinguishing said files or the pages from each other.

Claim 53 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 45, further comprising a display configured to display, after the transfer of the files or the pages designated, the files or the pages whose designation has been canceled.

Claim 54 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 39, wherein when image files or pages are designated as objects of transfer, said checking device compares a number of residual files or residual pages available at the destination and a number of the files or pages

designated as objects of transfer, but not transferred, and determines whether or not the transfer is allowable on the basis of a relation between said numbers.

Claim 55 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 39, wherein said checking device determines whether or not the transfer is allowable by determining whether or not the residual capacity of the destination is zero.

Claim 56 (Original): A device as claimed in claim 55, wherein when the destination comprises a storing device that allows a plurality of simultaneous accesses, said checking device determines, after a start of the transfer, whether or not a transfer is allowable by determining whether or not the residual capacity of said destination is zero.

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
an inputting device comprising an image data storing device, which includes an interface, and configured to receive image data output from at least one of an image reading unit or an outside of said image processing apparatus; and  
an image forming device configured to form an image in accordance with the image data output from said image data storing device;  
said image data storing device comprising;  
at least two storing devices different in storing format from each other, each configured to store image data input via said inputting device, said at least two storing means including an external storage and at least one of a video memory and a hard drive;  
a transfer controller configured to control transfer of the image data between said plurality of storing devices; and

checking device included in said transfer controller and configured to determine whether or not a storing device included in a destination, to which the image data should be transferred, has a capacity great enough to store said image data, wherein

said image processing apparatus is configured to operate within an image forming apparatus.